

CONFIDENTIAL

LA/APUB
INCOMING

FRP: . . 3,

STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: ALA/PA-2, ALA/PO/LA, ALA/SA/R, ALA/SA/RPO,
ALA/SA/SE, ALA/SEM, DD/NESA, NESA/AI/L-2, NESA/SCIG, ODPN-N, ODPN-S,
OGI/GD/AWH, OGI/IIC/PI, OGI/TAB1, OGI/TAB2, OPCTR/EALA, OPCTR/NESA, RF,
FILE, LA/APUB-2, NE/ISR-2, CR/W, EPO/LA, ICS/HC/LA, ICS/HC/ME, NCPM,
NIO/LA, NIO/NE, OIA/TWALA, PPS/AG, PPS/PO, PPS/SEO-3, QA/STATE, (19/W)

84 5595586 SCR

PAGE 001
TOR: 011457Z NOV 84

NC 5595586

RR RUEAIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
STU9379
RR RUEHC
DE RUESAS #7038 3061215
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 011053Z NOV 84
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 56
INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 161
BT
CONFIDENTIAL ASUNCION 7038

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: SHUM, PGOV, PA
SUBJECT: (U) ASSOCIATED PRESS ARTICLE ON JOSEF MENGELE

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. A RECENT UNDATED ASSOCIATED PRESS ARTICLE, DATED LINED
JERUSALEM, WAS BROUGHT TO THE EMBASSY'S ATTENTION. THE
STORY REPORTS ALLEGATIONS BY TUVIA FRIEDMAN, SAID TO BE
THE HEAD OF THE CENTER FOR INVESTIGATION OF NAZI CRIMINALS
IN HAIFA, THAT THE NAZI WAR CRIMINAL JOSEF MENGELE
IS LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES. WE ARE AWARE THAT THIS
ALLEGATION, WHICH RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE PLAY IN THE
PARAGUAYAN PRESS, HAS BEEN ROUNDLY DENIED.

3. HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE ASPECT OF THE ARTICLE WORTH
PURSUING FURTHER. ACCORDING TO THE AP STORY, A NEWSPAPER
CALLED "AL HAMISHAR" RECENTLY PUBLISHED A PICTURE TAKEN
IN 1979 OF A MAN IT CLAIMED WAS MENGELE BOARDING A FLIGHT
IN ASUNCION BOUND FOR MIAMI. THE PHOTO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY
A PHOTOCOPY OF AN EXIT REGISTRATION FORM FILLED OUT IN THE
NAME OF MENGELE SHOWING THAT HE TOOK BRANIFF AIRLINES
FLIGHT 774 FROM ASUNCION TO MIAMI ON AUGUST 28, 1979. THE
"AL HAMISHMAR" CORRESPONDENT, ONE HAIM MARGALIT, IS QUOTED
IN THE AP STORY AS SAYING THAT THE PHOTO AND DOCUMENT WERE
PROVIDED BY "A MAN WHO USED THE PSEUDONYM 'DR. RAUL' AND
DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS A PHYSICIAN LIVING IN PARAGUAY."

4. THERE WAS, IN FACT, AN INCIDENT IN 1979 IN WHICH
BRANIFF AIRLINES TIPPED THIS EMBASSY OFF TO THE FACT THAT
A RESERVATION HAD BEEN MADE ON ITS AUGUST 28 FLIGHT TO
MIAMI FOR ONE DR. JOSEF MENGELE. THE RESERVATION WAS MADE
BY AN UNKNOWN PARTY THROUGH THE DALLAS OFFICE OF BRANIFF.
IN THE EVENT, NO ONE EVER SHOWED UP TO USE THE RESERVATION
IN MENGELE'S NAME, PERHAPS BECAUSE WORD OF THE MATTER
LEAKED OUT TO THE PRESS, OR MORE LIELY BECAUSE THE WHOLE
THING WAS A HOAX.

5. IN OUR ROLE AS A REPOSITORY FOR INFORMATION ABOUT MENGELE,
WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF EMBASSY TEL AVIV COULD POUCH A
COPY OF THE "AL HAMISHMAR" ARTICLE TO THIS EMBASSY'S POLITICAL
SECTION. CLEARLY, BOTH THE "MENGELE" PHOTO AND THE EXIT FORM
ARE HOAXES. WE WOULD ALSO WELCOME ANY FURTHER INFORMATION
THE EMBASSY COULD PROVIDE ABOUT THAT NEWSPAPER, THE REPORTER
HAIM MARGALIT, AND HIS ALLEGED PARAGUAYAN CONTACT "DR. RAUL."

Strike
F 41
COORDINATION WITH
State

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2006

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

84 5595586

SCR

PAGE 002

NC 5595586

TOR: 011457Z NOV 84

6. THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE TWO MOTIVES BEHIND THIS RECENT
FLURRY OF PUBLICITY CONCERNING MENGELE'S WHEREABOUTS. FIRST,
TO KEEP HIS NAME BEFORE THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. AND SECOND,
TO SUGGEST THAT HE MAY BE SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN IN PARAGUAY.
DAVIS
END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL